

Libby - comm
Hartley



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 8

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DENVER, CO 80202-1129
Phone 800-227-8917
<http://www.epa.gov/region08>


1249192 - R8 SDMS

JUN 16 2011

Ref: 8EPR-SR

Mel and Lerah Parker
P.O. Box 609
Libby, MT 59923

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Parker:

I have reviewed your concerns regarding the process which led to new power lines being placed within the county right-of-way along Rainy Creek Road. This issue has also been discussed with the EPA senior regional management. As a result of this review, the EPA has concluded that the communication process was not conducted in accordance to the high standards that the EPA strives for in our business with the public. In particular, we agree that a meeting between you and EPA representatives should have occurred prior to installation of the power lines. I regret that we were remiss in our communications with you in this instance.

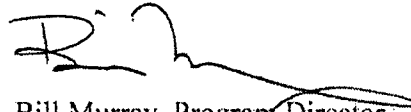
I am also aware of your discussions with Lincoln County regarding the location of the Rainy Creek Road right-of-way. At this time, Lincoln County has assured the EPA that the power lines are located within the right-of-way. In the event that it is determined that the actual right-of-way is in a different location, the EPA will work with the county to relocate the power lines after the county has constructed the road in its proper location.

I have also been informed about two other issues regarding Rainy Creek Road that you have raised with Lincoln County. First, you are concerned about the possibility of long-term closure of the Rainy Creek Road as part of the remedy. The EPA will evaluate all reasonable remedy alternatives once the investigations at operable unit 3 (OU3) are complete. Public use of the Rainy Creek Road will be considered during this process. If there is a way in which the Rainy Creek Road can be reopened without putting either public health or the remedy at risk, the EPA will consider it. During the public comment period for the proposed plan for OU3, EPA will consider input from all stakeholders including the US Forest Service, W.R. Grace, and private citizens.

Second, you have expressed your concerns to Lincoln County regarding erosion issues along Rainy Creek Road. The EPA is committed to working with local and state authorities to assure that erosion issues along Rainy Creek Road are addressed in accordance with their requirements.

Thank you for your continued interest in the EPA's activities in Libby Montana. If you have any further questions regarding the Libby Asbestos Superfund Site, please contact me at 303-312-6401 or Victor Ketellapper, the Libby Site Team Leader at 303-312-6578.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Bill Murray', with a stylized, sweeping flourish extending to the right.

Bill Murray, Program Director
Remedial Response Program